scavengers and assistance for their subsequent rehabilitation in other alternative occupations. The Scheme is being implemented through State Scheduled Castes Development Corporations. Setting up of 'Sanitary Marts' has been taken up for organizing the scavengers into groups, which will manage the mart and take up conversion of dry latrines to wet latrines and sale of various sanitary goods.

(d) The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis has been given power under the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993.

Inclusion of dalit Christians in SC list

3045. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to include Dalit Christians in SC list;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Proposal for inclusion of Dalit Christians in the list of Scheduled Caste is being processed in accordance with modalities laid down in this regard. No time frame can be assigned, as it involves consultation with a number of agencies.

(c) Does not arise.

Effect of privatisation of PSUs on SC/ST employees

3046. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments decision to privatize some of their undertakings/ corporations is likely to affect the persons belonging to SC/ST as their new employees may not retain them;

(b) if so, what precautionary steps have been taken to safeguard the interest of SC/ST employees; and

(c) the prospects of further recruitment and promotion avenues to SCs/STs in such undertakings?